

Marked up Copy of the Specification

On page 1, insert the following paragraph at line 19 before the paragraph beginning "Optical fiber has become .."

The present application relates to the field of optical communication, and more particularly with a method and system for minimizing losses associated with dispersion management by utilizing Raman amplification.

On page 4, replace the paragraph beginning with line 16 with:

Other transmission fibers have been designed which exhibit negative dispersion and positive slope over the transmission band. Such fibers are disclosed for example in U.S. Patent [5,609,562] 6,091,873 and are conventionally known as negative non-zero dispersion shifted fibers (negative NZDSF), or reverse dispersion fibers (RDF). These fibers exhibit zero dispersion at a wavelength above the "C" band, and typically exhibit positive dispersion slope. One type of RDF exhibits dispersion at 1550 nm of -1.32 ps/nm/km, with a slope of 0.053 ps/nm²/km.